



State Representative
Hans Dunshee
44th Legislative District



Report on Energy Freedom

Dear neighbors,

Are you worried about the price of gas?

If there's an issue that citizen after citizen talks to me about, it's how much it costs to fill up their tank. While prices have gone down from \$3 a gallon, economists tell us we may look back at this as the good old days of cheap gas, because a global shortage means oil may hit \$100 a barrel.

I believe we can – and must – do something about the high price of gas. It's a big drain on our economy. It costs more to get to work. More to drive goods to market. More to move our kids on school buses.

This newsletter is about a bold plan – Energy Freedom – to make our state less dependent on imported oil.

Instead of sending all our money to Big Oil and the Saudi royal family, I believe we should put more money in the pockets of our local farmers, who can grow a clean, renewable fuel that doesn't skyrocket in price.

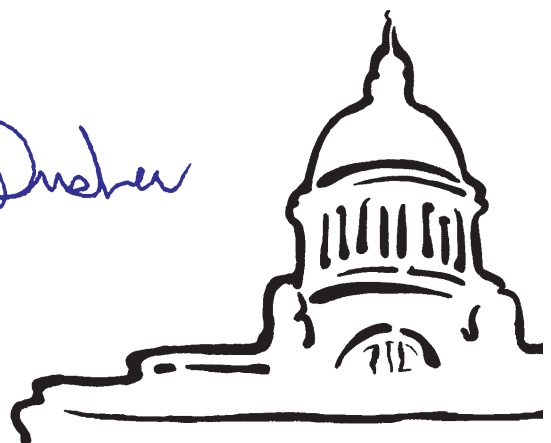
It's an idea that's working elsewhere. If we have the political courage, we can take bold action to make our state energy independent.

What do you think? I'm interested in hearing from you. At the end of this newsletter is a short survey.

It's an honor and a privilege to serve as your representative. Thank you for taking the time to read this. I hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Rep. Hans Dunshee
Chair, Capital Budget



Keeping in Touch



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Report on Energy Freedom • R

Pay local farmers or Big Oil and the Saudis

When you fill up your tank, you're sending that money out of state – to giant corporations in Houston and foreign oil producers.

Every year, our citizens pump \$9 billion out of Washington when they fill up their tanks.

I believe we'd be better off spending more of that money here, making our economy stronger.

I believe it's smarter to give our dollars to local farmers for biofuels – ethanol and biodiesel – instead of sending all our money to Big Oil and the Saudi royal family.

And I believe we'd be better off with a clean, renewable fuel that's locally grown and doesn't skyrocket in price.



What are biofuels?

Ethanol

People are already burning ethanol – a fancy word for alcohol – when they fill up their tank at BP stations, which use a 10 percent ethanol blend.

You can make ethanol out of practically any plant material. Just think of all the plants they use to make alcohol: wheat for beer, potatoes for vodka, molasses for rum.

A Canadian company is building a giant plant to create ethanol from wheat straw, and they're looking at Washington state because we produce so much wheat.



Biodiesel

Rudolph Diesel actually designed the diesel engine to run on peanut oil. So it's not really that strange when you see cars that run on restaurant grease.

Biodiesel is plant oil that's brewed to run in diesel engines.

Farmers here can grow canola or mustard seed to make biodiesel. The great thing about those two plants is they don't need irrigation, which saves farmers and taxpayers a lot of money if you put them in the rotation.



Can my car run on ethanol or biodiesel?

Yes. Any cars that run on gas use 10 percent ethanol blends (E10). Modern diesel cars or trucks can run on biodiesel blends or pure biodiesel.

It costs car manufacturers about \$50 to \$100 to change regular cars into flexible fuel cars that can run on any mixture of gas or ethanol – E10, half gas and half ethanol or E85, which is 85 percent ethanol. To make this change, you just need to manufacture cars with stainless steel gas tanks and tougher gaskets.



Diesel engines are tougher and more flexible. Any modern diesel engine can run on a biodiesel blend.

Many people are experimenting with raw vegetable oil to fuel their diesel cars. We're not talking about that; biodiesel is a different animal, more like regular diesel.

The first steps toward Energy Freedom

Our goal is to wean Washington state from imported oil, which will only go up in price. Huge demand for oil in China and India is causing a global shortage and experts say prices could easily go up to \$100 a barrel.



Ethanol and biodiesel are already competitive with regular gas and diesel. They also burn cleaner, can be grown locally and are renewable.

To achieve Energy Freedom, I'm working with farmers, biodiesel refiners and other lawmakers on an ambitious plan. We'll take the first steps during the 2006 session with smart reforms and bold action.

- Create a market – Farmers won't grow crops if there's no market for them. To boost the market for ethanol and biodiesel, we'll give consumers a choice at the pump by requiring market access for biofuels.
- Use the buying power of the state – We can also create a huge, built-in market for biofuels by having state and lo-

ep. Hans Dunshee

cal vehicles use biofuel blends. Think about how many millions of gallons of fuel get burned by our school buses and state troopers.

- Build it now – Farmers need local crushers, near their farms, to turn canola and mustard seed into the oil used to create biodiesel. Right when the Legislature meets in January, I'll introduce legislation to help build these crushers, immediately, so farmers can plant crops now and harvest them in November.
- Save money and fuel – Many people forget we don't just use gas and diesel for our cars. A lot gets burned to create electricity and heat our homes. We can reduce our



dependence on imported oil by (a) making our homes and buildings more energy efficient and (b) shifting from oil and coal to renewable energies like solar power and wind mills, which also put more money in the pockets of our local farmers instead of big energy companies in Houston or New York.



I'm proud that Snohomish High School students have been coming down to Olympia every year to propose new reforms like Courtney's Law, which now protects kids on the road.

What do you think?

I'm interested in your thoughts and opinions. Please take a moment to share your views; I make a point of personally reading every citizen's comments.

To complete your survey follow these instructions:

Shade entire circle like this: ●

Not like this: ☒ or this: ☒

Mailing: After completing the survey, fold to expose return address panel, affix 39¢ stamp and mail.

1. Which direction do you think America is heading?

- ☐ Right direction
- ☐ Wrong direction

2. Which direction do you think Washington state is heading?

- ☐ Right direction
- ☐ Wrong direction

3. Nationally, are we heading in the right direction on energy issues?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

4. In Washington state, are we heading in the right direction on energy issues?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

5. What's your top choice for doing something about the price of energy?

- A. ☐ Cut environmental rules to make it easier to build refineries locally
- B. ☐ Drill for more oil, including the Alaska National Wildlife Reserve
- C. ☐ Give oil companies more tax cuts to encourage exploration for oil sources
- D. ☐ Push for higher national fuel-efficiency standards on cars
- E. ☐ Move toward alternatives that are cleaner and renewable (solar, wind, biofuels)

• Questionnaire continued on back page



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place
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Questionnaire continued

6. How am I doing representing the citizens of the 44th District, and what can I do to better serve you?

- ☐ Good
- ☐ Bad

Suggestions:

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